

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

VINCENTIUS P. BUIL ET AL

NL000434

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

Title: SYSTEM FOR BROWSING A COLLECTION OF INFORMATION UNITS

Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, and 13 to be in the form as follows. A marked up copy of the claims is included in an appendix following this amendment for the Examiners convenience.

3. A system as claimed in claim 1, said attribute value being defined with respect to a first attribute, said attribute means being adapted to determine a set of valid attribute values for a further attribute in dependence on said criterion.

5. A system as claimed in claim 1, said information units comprising audio and/or video information.

6. A system as claimed in claim 1, the system further comprising user-operable skip means for controlling the random

selection means to abort the presentation of the currently selected unit and to skip to a randomly selected alternative unit whose attribute value meets said criterion.

9. A system as claimed in claim 1, the attribute means being adapted to determine a distance between a pair of attribute values, the random selection means being capable of selecting a unit from units whose attribute values have a relatively large distance to attribute values of an earlier selected unit.

10. A system as claimed in claim 1, the system comprising display means for displaying a simulation of a slot machine, an operation of said simulated slot machine representing said random selection, and each cylinder of said slot machine representing a set of valid attribute values for an attribute.

13. A computer program product for causing a programmable device, when executed on said device, to constitute a system as claimed in claim 1.

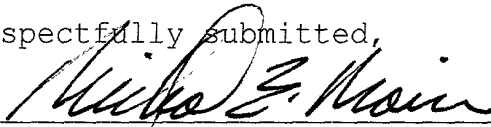
REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment to the claims was made solely to avoid filing the claims in the multiple dependant form so as to avoid the additional filing fee.

The claims were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserves all rights they may have under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicants furthermore reserves their right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Respectfully submitted,

By

  
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APPENDIX A

3. A system as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, said attribute value being defined with respect to a first attribute, said attribute means being adapted to determine a set of valid attribute values for a further attribute in dependence on said criterion.

5. A system as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, said information units comprising audio and/or video information.

6. A system as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, the system further comprising user-operable skip means for controlling the random selection means to abort the presentation of the currently selected unit and to skip to a randomly selected alternative unit whose attribute value meets said criterion.

9. A system as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, the attribute means being adapted to determine a distance between a pair of attribute values, the random selection means being capable of selecting a unit from units whose attribute values have a relatively large distance to attribute values of an earlier selected unit.

10. A system as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, the system comprising display means for displaying a simulation of a slot machine, an operation of said simulated slot machine representing said random selection, and each cylinder of said slot

machine representing a set of valid attribute values for an attribute.

13. A computer program product for causing a programmable device, when executed on said device, to constitute a system as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1.